

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY U.S. CUSTOMS: LALLSHOUSE: LPH
APPROVED BY S/NM: JLINNEMANN
S/NM: PWOODRING
EA/TIMBS: DFIELD (PHONE)
DEA: WLEAMY (INFO)

-----106002 031854Z /43

R 031714Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR/PP, TH, PH, HK

SUBJECT: U.S. CUSTOMS TRAINING IN BANGKOK FOR PAPUA NEW
GUINEA CUSTOMS OFFICERS

REF: (A) CUSTOMS 1821, 211436Z FEB 78; (B) BANGKOK 5138,
(C) PORT MORESBY 0274

FOR NARCOTIC CONTROL OFFICERS AT ADDRESSEE POSTS, FOR SAIC
GREENE IN NAMILA, FOR RENAGHAN IN HONG KONG.

1. REF (A) GIVES DATES OF MAY 1 - MAY 26 FOR TWO BASIC
CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT CLASSES TO BE HELD IN BANGKOK AND GIVES
APPROVAL TO INVITE THAI ONCB AND POLICE OFFICERS AS WELL
AS INDONESIAN CUSTOMS OFFICERS TO THE COURSES. U.S. CUSTOMS
UNAWARE OF THE INTENT OF MISSION BANGKOK TO EXTEND INVITA-
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TION TO PNG CUSTOMS OFFICERS BUT HAS NO PROBLEM WITH THAT
IDEA.

2. REF (B) TENTATIVELY INVITES FIVE PNG CUSTOMS OFFICERS TO
THE COURSE, DEPENDENT UPON THAI GOVERNMENT APPROVAL.

3. REF (C) REQUESTS INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FUNDING OF

EXPENSES TIED TO PNG PARTICIPATION IN SUBJECT TRAINING AND INDICATES A NEED FOR ADDITIONAL CUSTOMS TRAINING IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

4. S/NM APPROVES PER DIEM FOR FIVE PNG PARTICIPANTS TO ATTEND THE TWO-WEEK COURSE IN BANGKOK IF ALL PARTIES IN AGREEMENT ON THE TRAINING. DEPARTMENT STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE IDEA OF INTERESTED COUNTRIES DEMONSTRATING THEIR INVOLVEMENT AND SINCERITY BY FUNDING INTERNATIONAL AIR FARES INVOLVED; HOWEVER, IF MISSION IS CONVINCED THAT PNG GOVERNMENT UNABLE TO PAY FOR TRANSPORTATION SOLELY DUE TO LACK OF BUDGETED FUNDS, THOSE COSTS WILL ALSO BE APPROVED. PLEASE ADVISE SO THAT APPROPRIATE ACCOUNTING PAPERWORK CAN BE INITIATED.

5.--B.S. CUSTOMS HEADQUARTERS DOES NOT CONCUR

5. U.S. CUSTOMS HEADQUARTERS DOES NOT CONCUR WITH BANGKOK RECOMMENDATION THAT A U.S. CUSTOMS ADVISOR IN BANGKOK TRAVEL TO PORT MORESBY TO CONDUCT 3-5 DAY TRAINING FOR PNG OFFICERS. U.S. CUSTOMS IS WILLING TO PROVIDE ANY NECESSARY TRAINING TO PNG COUNTERPARTS, BUT WOULD PREFER TO SEND A FULLY PREPARED TEAM FROM WASHINGTON FOLLOWING AN INITIAL NEEDS EVALUATION VISIT TO PORT MORESBY BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS DIVISION. SUCH A VISIT WILL BE SCHEDULED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. CHRISTOPHER UNCLASSIFIED

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